(ख) क्या बिहार सरकार के कार्मिक और प्रशासनिक सुधार विभाग ने अपने 3 जनवरी, 1985 के पत्र सं० वि० 1-109/84 का० 5 के द्वारा पुरान जाति को अनुसूचित जनजातियों की सूची में शामिल करने हेतु सिफारिश की थी; और

(ग) यदि उपर्युक्त भाग(क) और (ख) के उत्तर स्वीकारात्मक हैं तो क्या सरकार बिहार की पुरान जाति को अनुसूचित जनजातियों की सूची में शामिल करने का विचार रखती है, यदि हां, तो कब तक और यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं?

कल्याण मंत्री (श्री बलवन्त सिंह रामूवालिया): (क) अनुसूचित जनजाति की सूची में पुरान समुदाय को शामिल करने की सिफारिश करते समय बिहार सरकार द्वारा भेजी गई सामग्री से पता चलता है कि इनकी जनसंख्या लगभग 10,000 है और ब्यौरे एकत्र किए जा रहे हैं।

(ख) बिहार सरकार ने अपने दिनांक 3 जनवरी, 1984 के पत्र के अंतर्गत अनुसूचित जनजातियों की सूची में पुरान को शामिल करने की सिफारिश की है।

(ग) राज्य सरकार का प्रस्ताव विचाराधीन है।

Harassment of Farmers by Management of Sugar Factories

2097. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government will consider nominating one Director on the Board of every sugar factory in the country;

(b) whether farmers are frequently harassed by the management of sugar factoreis regarding payments;

(c) whether it is also a fact that cane is underweighed as a routine course in sugar foactories; and

(d) in what manner Government propose to curb such irregularities in sugar factories?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV): (a) to (d) The State Governments and functionaries working under them have the necessary authority to attend to the complaints of farmers in respect of matters like under-weighment of cane, payment of cane arrears etc. Every sugar factory is managed by its own Board of Directors as appointed under its respective memorandum and articles of association. The Central Government does not appoint Directors on the Boards of every sugar factory in the country.

Latest estimated of coal reserves

2098. SHRI ASHOK MITRA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the latest estimate of coal reserves in the country considered available for commercial exploitation over the long run;

(b) the nature and magnitude of investments proposed to be undertaken in the course of the forthcoming decade to tap these reserves; and

(c) the measures undertaken by Government to encourage the development of by-products of coal and widespread industrial use of such by-products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) As on 1st January, 1996 the total coal reserves of the country as estimated by the Geological Survey of India(GSI) is about 201.95 billion tonnes upto a depth of 1200 metres. No firm estimates are available about the reserves that can be considered as commercially exploitable in the long run. However, since 68 billion tonnes of the reserves estimated by GSI fall in the proved category upto a depth of 600 metres, broadly, the recoverable reserves can be reckoned as 30 billion tonnes aproximately.

(b) The projections for Ninth Plan have not been firmed up. The Planning Commission has constituted a Working Group on Coal and Lignite to prepare an approach paper for the Ninth Plan. As per tentative estimates made in the approach